

Scientific and Technical Employee Development (STED) Conference Call March 26, 2009

Committee members:

| Name | Role/Affiliation |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Steve Anthony (not present) | Studies Section Chiefs |
| Steve Blanchard (not present) | WRD Senior Staff |
| Virginia de Lima (not present) | Center Directors |
| Bob Hainly (Chair) | Data Chiefs |
| Bill Hazell | Hydrologic Technicians |
| Leo House | NRP |
| Mike Nolan | OSW |
| Dave Pollock (not present) | OGW |
| Kurt Schultz | IT Specialists |
| Lynn Taylor (not present) | NWIS |
| Alan Ward | OED |
| Franceska Wilde (not present) | OWQ |

Meeting Introduction:

- Bob Hainly opened the teleconference and reviewed the agenda. No additions were suggested.

Comments on the minutes from the January 2009 meeting:

- No comments were received.
- **ACTION ITEM** – Bob will send a reminder to the absent members to review the draft minutes and then send the finalized January 2009 meeting minutes to be posted on the STED web page. (completed 4/10/09)

Review of the Action Items Log:

- Few items require review. No updates were received.
- **1/29 ACTION ITEM** – Steve Blanchard to recruit new members to replace our current NRP and IT reps whose terms are expiring.
 - Action Item progress – Bob will check on Steve's progress.

External Communication

- WR Data Conference – Three sessions provided an opportunity to discuss TEL courses and/or STED activities.
- Pacific-NW Science Conference – Alan provided and manned a poster and provided information to attendees.
- No other reports.

Rotational Committee Membership

- This is the last meeting for Leo House, our NRP representative, and Kurt Schultz, our IT constituent group representative. The committee members thanked them for their service to STED activities.
- Leo indicated that Harry Jenter would be a good NRP representative to the committee and has agreed to serve if asked.
- **ACTION ITEM** – Bob will pass this information on to Steve B.
- Kurt Schultz had no specific suggestions for his replacement.
- A decision about term extensions for the remaining rotational members is still pending.
- **ACTION ITEM** – Bob will poll rotational members and determine willingness to stay on or rotate off committee and then contact Steve B. with results.

TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: OSW Activities – Mike Nolan

- Developing coordinators and schedule to provide what is needed
- Recognized that economic downturn has reduced training activities
- Instrumentation training usually takes the place of tech. (hydro.) training
- Looking at ways to make more basic training available to more employees
 - Hold more classes at Gateway? A way to assist students.
 - Seeing a big demand from cooperators and other DOI participants

TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: Sediment Transport Course - Alan Ward

- Not much progress since last meeting, but moving ahead.
- Demo for introductory module possibly available soon.
- Still looking at alternatives for MATLAB.

FY2009 HR Initiative Funding Status - Alan

- Will need more frequent reporting from recipients
- Additional \$6K provided to real-time records process and GRSAT courses

TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: SW Procedures and Policies Course Status – Mike Nolan

- All modules are complete except one
- Still stuck on completing Basic Electronics module
- Remainder of modules have at least one colleague review - index-velocity is exception
- Working towards Directors approval for module (bundle of modules)
- Three narrators working on modules - Mike, Joe Nielson, and Jake Jacobsen

TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: QW Principles Course Status – Alan Ward

- QW Principles contract in place; expecting EOY delivery
- No report on effort to track expenses and review process to provide info for future course developments

STED Web Page Enhancement – Mike Nolan

- Still looking for comments and design ideas
- Expecting to get back on this task soon
- Comments will still be accepted for video postings

Wrap-up

- Should we request time to report our activities to Senior Staff?
 - Bob to discuss with Steve
 - We could provide updates on TEL courses, NTC activities, and STED approach to support training activities with limited WSC funding
- Training methods for the current fiscal environment
 - Streamlining video established at NTC
 - Deployment of training aids to other locations
 - Request input from Center Directors

The next conference call is scheduled for Thursday, May 28 at 1:00 pm EDT.